

Arizona CWCS Element Guide (Road Map)

This guide is provided for the National Advisory Acceptance Team for the purpose of evaluating Arizona's Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy (CWCS or Strategy) in addressing the 8 required elements. Section titles may be abbreviated. Only the beginning page number is given.

Element 1: Information on the distribution and abundance of species of wildlife, including low and declining populations as the state deems appropriate, that are indicative of the diversity and health of the state's wildlife:		
NAAT Guidance	Section	Page
A. The Strategy indicates sources of information (for example, literature, data bases, agencies, individuals) on wildlife abundance and distribution consulted during the planning process.	Identifying Species of Greatest Conservation Need (Element 1)	32
B. The Strategy includes information about both abundance and distribution for species in all major groups to the extent that data are available. There are plans for acquiring information about species for which adequate abundance and/or distribution information is unavailable.	Describing Species Distributions Using Ecoregions and Habitat Types (Element 1)	30
	Appendix F. Master Species List for the Apache Highlands North Ecoregion	575
	Appendix G. Master Species List for the Apache Highlands South Ecoregion	594
	Appendix H. Master species list for the Arizona-New Mexico Mountains Ecoregion	617
	Appendix I. Master species list for the Colorado Plateau Ecoregion	632
	Appendix J. Master species list for the Mohave Desert Ecoregion	654
	Appendix K. Master species list for the Sonoran Desert Ecoregion	679
	Identifying Species of Unknown Status (Element 1)	32
C. The Strategy identifies low and declining populations to the extent data are available.	Unknown Status Species and Monitoring Needs	528
	Table 16. Tier 1a and 1b SGCN associated with each habitat type in Apache Highlands North.	91
	Table 17. Tier 1a and 1b SGCN associated with each habitat type in Apache Highlands South.	111
	Table 18. Tier 1a and 1b SGCN associated with each habitat type in the Arizona-New Mexico Mountain Ecoregion.	134
	Table 19. Tier 1a and 1b SGCN associated with each habitat type in the Colorado Plateau Ecoregion.	153
	Table 20. Tier 1a and 1b SGCN associated with each habitat type in the Mohave Desert Ecoregion.	172
	Table 21. Tier 1a and Tier 1b SGCN associated with each habitat type in the Sonoran Desert Ecoregion.	190
	Appendix M. All SGCN in Arizona	716

Element 1: Information on the distribution and abundance of species of wildlife, including low and declining populations as the state deems appropriate, that are indicative of the diversity and health of the state's wildlife:

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D. All major groups of wildlife have been considered or an explanation is provided as to why they were not. The State may indicate whether these groups are to be included in a future Strategy revision.	Compilation of a Comprehensive List of Wildlife in Arizona (Element 1)	29
E. The Strategy describes the process used to select the species in greatest need of conservation. The quantity of information in the Strategy is determined by the State with input from its partners, based on what is available to the State.	Soliciting Broad Public Participation in Development of the CWCS (Element 8)	23
	Identifying Species of Greatest Conservation Need (Element 1)	32
	Appendix L. Criteria for Scoring Arizona Wildlife under 4 Conservation Categories	707

Element 2: Descriptions of locations and relative condition of key habitats and community types essential to conservation of species identified in (1):

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A. The Strategy provides a reasonable explanation for the level of detail provided; if insufficient, the Strategy identifies the types of future actions that will be taken to obtain the information.	Developing Arizona's CWCS at the Habitat and Species Scales	25
	Identifying Habitats of Greatest Conservation Need (Element 2)	33
B. Key habitats and their relative conditions are described in enough detail such that the State can determine where (in which regions, watersheds, or landscapes within the State) and what conservation actions need to take place.	Arizona's Wildlife and Habitats (Element 2)	47
	Statewide Condition of Arizona's Terrestrial and Riparian/Aquatic Habitat Types (Element 2)	75
	Ecoregion-Specific Habitat Conditions (Element 2)	85
	Areas of Conservation Priority within each Habitat Type	207

Element 3: Descriptions of problems which may adversely affect species identified in (1) or their habitats, and priority research and survey efforts needed to identify factors which may assist in restoration and improved conservation of these species and habitats:

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A. The Strategy indicates sources of information (for example, literature, databases, agencies, or individuals) used to determine the problems or threats.	Assessing Stressors/Threats to Arizona's Wildlife and Wildlife Habitats (Element 3)	35
	Appendix O. Magnitude and urgency scores used to determine stressors with significant impacts in each of the major habitat type in each ecoregion	727
B. The threats/problems are described in sufficient detail to develop focused conservation actions.	Stressors that Impact Wildlife and Wildlife Habitats (Element 3)	50

Element 3: Descriptions of problems which may adversely affect species identified in (1) or their habitats, and priority research and survey efforts needed to identify factors which may assist in restoration and improved conservation of these species and habitats:

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C. The Strategy considers threats/problems, regardless of their origins (local, State, regional, national and international), where relevant to the State's species and habitats.	Stressors that Impact Wildlife and Wildlife Habitats (Element 3)	50
	Major Stressors Affecting Habitat (Element 3) - AHN	95
	Major Stressors Affecting Habitat (Element 3) - AHS	118
	Major Stressors Affecting Habitat (Element 3) - AZNM	138
	Major Stressors Affecting Habitat (Element 3) - CP	157
	Major Stressors Affecting Habitat (Element 3) - MD	175
	Major Stressors Affecting Habitat (Element 3) - SD	195
	Conservation Actions to Address Stressors to SGCN (Elements 3, 4)	234
D. If available information is insufficient to describe threats/problems, research and survey efforts are identified to obtain needed information.	Developing Conservation Strategies and Identifying Information Needs (Element 4)	40
	Actions to Address Information Needs Related to Stressors	504
E. The priority research and survey needs, and resulting products, are described sufficiently to allow for the development of research and survey projects after the Strategy is approved.	Actions to Address Information Needs Related to Stressors	504

Element 4: Descriptions of conservation actions determined to be necessary to conserve the identified species and habitats and priorities for implementing such actions:

NAAT Guidance	Section	Pages
A. The Strategy identifies how conservation actions address identified threats to species of greatest conservation need and their habitats.	Developing Conservation Strategies and Identifying Information Needs (Element 4)	40
B. The Strategy describes conservation actions sufficiently to guide implementation of those actions through the development and execution of specific projects and programs.	Conservation Actions to Address Stressors to Habitats (Element 4)	213
	Conservation Actions to Address Stressors to SGCN (Elements 3, 4)	234
C. The Strategy links conservation actions to objectives and indicators that will facilitate monitoring and performance measurement of those conservation actions (outlined in Element #5).	Identifying Species for Monitoring Habitat Condition (Element 5) Tracking Progress	33 529
D. The Strategy describes conservation actions (where relevant to the State's species and habitats) that could be addressed by Federal agencies or regional, national or international partners and shared with other States.	Conservation Actions to Address Stressors to Habitats (Element 4)	213
	Conservation Actions to Address Stressors to SGCN (Elements 3, 4)	234
	Appendix P. Conservation and planning documents directing activities by the Department and its cooperators	759
E. If available information is insufficient to describe needed conservation actions, the Strategy identifies research or survey needs for obtaining information to develop specific conservation actions.	Actions to Address Information Needs Related to Stressors	504
	Unknown Status Species and Monitoring Needs	528
F. The Strategy identifies the relative priority of conservation actions.	Conservation Actions to Address Stressors to Habitats (Element 4)	213
	Conservation Actions to Address Stressors to SGCN (Elements 3, 4)	234

Element 5: Proposed plans for monitoring species identified in (1) and their habitats, for monitoring the effectiveness of the conservation actions proposed in (4), and for adapting these conservation actions to respond appropriately to new information or changing conditions:

NAAT Guidance	Section	Page
A. The Strategy describes plans for monitoring species identified in Element #1, and their habitats.	Monitoring and Adaptive Management (Element 5)	44
	Monitoring and Adaptive Management (Element 5)	521
	Table 22. Summary of ongoing and planned SGCN and habitat condition monitoring efforts currently carried out by Arizona Game and Fish Department and cooperators.	530
	Appendix P. Conservation and planning documents directing activities by the Department and its cooperators	759
B. The Strategy describes how the outcomes of the conservation actions will be monitored.	CWCS Relational Database	42
	Tracking Progress	529
C. If monitoring is not identified for a species or species group, the Strategy explains why it is not appropriate, necessary or possible.	Monitoring and Adaptive Management (Element 5)	521

Element 5: Proposed plans for monitoring species identified in (1) and their habitats, for monitoring the effectiveness of the conservation actions proposed in (4), and for adapting these conservation actions to respond appropriately to new information or changing conditions:

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D. Monitoring is to be accomplished at one of several levels including individual species, guilds, or natural communities.	Monitoring and Adaptive Management (Element 5)	521
E. The monitoring utilizes or builds on existing monitoring and survey systems or explains how information will be obtained to determine the effectiveness of conservation actions.	Tracking Progress Table 22. Summary of ongoing and planned SGCN and habitat condition monitoring efforts currently carried out by Arizona Game and Fish Department and cooperators. Appendix P. Conservation and planning documents directing activities by the Department and its cooperators	529 530 759
F. The monitoring considers the appropriate geographic scale to evaluate the status of species or species groups and the effectiveness of conservation actions.	Table 22. Summary of ongoing and planned SGCN and habitat condition monitoring efforts currently carried out by Arizona Game and Fish Department and cooperators. Appendix P. Conservation and planning documents directing activities by the Department and its cooperators	530 759
G. The Strategy is adaptive in that it allows for evaluating conservation actions and implementing new actions accordingly.	CWCS Relational Database Tracking Progress	42 529

Element 6: Descriptions of procedures to review the Strategy at intervals not to exceed 10 years:

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A. The State describes the process that will be used to review the Strategy within the next 10 years.	Revisions to the CWCS within a 10-yr Timeframe (Element 6)	46

Element 7: Plans for coordinating, to the extent feasible, the development, implementation, review, and revision of the Strategy with Federal, State, and local agencies and Indian tribes that manage significant land and water areas within the state or administer programs that significantly affect the conservation of identified species and habitats:

NAAT Guidance	Section	Page
A. The State describes the extent of its coordination with and efforts to involve Federal, State and local agencies, and Indian Tribes in the development of its Strategy.	Coordination with Land Management Partners (Element 7) Table 5. Department partners and interested parties that assisted in developing the CWCS.	22 22
B. The State describes its continued coordination with these agencies and tribes in the implementation, review and revision of its Strategy.	Table 5. Department partners and interested parties that assisted in developing the CWCS. Implementation of Conservation Actions, Surveys, and Research Revisions to the CWCS within a 10-yr Timeframe (Element 6)	22 41 46

Element 8: Provisions to ensure public participation in the development, revision, and implementation of projects and programs. Congress has affirmed that broad public participation is an essential element of this process:

NAAT Guidance	Section	Pages
A. The State describes the extent of its efforts to involve the public in the development of its Strategy.	Table 5. Department partners and interested parties that assisted in developing the CWCS. Soliciting Broad Public Participation in Development of the CWCS (Element 8)	22
		23
B. The State describes its continued public involvement in the implementation and revision of its Strategy.	Revisions to the CWCS within a 10-yr Timeframe (Element 6)	46